THE

WEEKLY INSPECTOR.

" Of those men who have overturned the Liberties of Republics, the greatest number " have begun their career by paying an obsequious court to the People—commencing " DEMAGOGUES, and ending TYRANTS." HAMILTON.

Vol. I.] NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1807. [No. 22.

NEXT PRESIDENT.

(Concluded from page 222.)

In the next falsehood, which is blurted against the Federal administration, in this " *respectful address*," we find the men whose measures, as we have before shown, met the high approbation ot WASHINGTON, accused of imposing *exorbitant* and *unnecessary* taxes.

We should not hesitate to admit that the Federal taxes were even enormous, provided these gentlemen-petitioners, on their part, will grant, what is a fact, that the present administration have *increased* them. Indeed, they have not only much enhanced the amount of taxes paid, but have placed extra duties on the necessaries of life; such as salt, brown sugar, low priced teas, and repealed the Federal taxes on articles of luxury; such as loaf sugar and gentlemen's carriages. It will be said, however, that the Federalists imposed *direct internal* taxes. True; but these dreadful direct taxes were, as it happens, of democratic origin. It was well observed by Mr. Bayard, respecting internal taxes, in his celebrated speech on the judiciary bill, " This was a measure to which we had been urged for years by our political adversaries, because they foresaw in it the ruin of federal power."

There is no man who is possessed of even a smattering of the politics of this country, who does not know that our good democrats formerly inveighed most bitterly against *indirect taxes*, or the raising of a revenue by duties on articles of commerce, because such duties, as they expressed it, picked the people's pockets, or took their money from them in a manner which they could not comprehend.

These petitioners tell us, that " the strength and resources of the nation were wasted with lavish prodigality."

We will, in answer to this, merely glance at the labours of the Federal administration, and we shall see that the direct reverse of this assertion is true.

The Federalists found the United States distracted at home, and beginning to be contemned abroad; without money in the treasury sufficient to defray the daily necessary expenditures of the government; upwards of seventy millions in debt; the securities of government selling at two shillings on the pound, &c. &c —and,

I. They created public funds for the extinction of the public debt; punctually paid the interest, and part of the principal. Their financical arrangements were made with such admirable foresight, that their successors have not dared to deviate in the least from the principles established, under the guidance and superintendance of General *Hamilton*. The assumption of state debts, contracted in defence of the union in our revolutionary war, has been the subject of much groundless clamour. But will the anti-federalists declare that this was either an unjust or impolitic measure? If so, they must be either incorrigibly stupid, or incredibly perverse.

Had the Federal administration been guilty of such a violation of national faith and honour, as to refuse to balance the accounts between the states, in a

partnership entered into for mutual defence, they would not only have struck a death-blow to the union, but have been guilty of the most corrupt *swindling* on a national scale. In future emergencies, even in case of actual invasion, what individual, corporation, state, or society of men, would have lifted a hand in defence of a community, which repays her benefactors and saviours with the curses of ingratitude, & leaves them to pine in penury, produced by exertions in the cause of their country? Even Gallatin, one of the most active of the faction, was candid enough to acknowledge that the assumption and funding of the state debts by the United States, was a step founded on the principles of rectitude; and in a treatise on the finances of the United States declares, that "*unless the American government had chosen to forfeit every claim to common honesty, it must necessarily provide for discharging the principal, or paying the interest.*"

II. The Federalists made provisions for fortifying our harbours, and in some instances carried these provisions into effect *.

But here they were impeded in their career by the incessant clamour of their political adversaries; adversaries who, with Giles at their head, declared in substance, (what appears every day in the Aurora) that "security makes men proud, and pride makes them insolent, and to avoid war it will be *best to leave our sea-ports to depend on their own good behaviour, for if fortified, they would, by insult, provoke hostility.*"

III. Federalists sought for, and procured indemnity for foreign spoliations, British as well as French.

IV. Federalists created a political system out of a chaos of discordant materials. Under their auspices, commerce was protected, agriculture flourished, a revenue raised without burthening the people, *our national credit restored and established, and the foundations* laid for making this country at once the delight and admiration of the world. But the present administration have subtracted the corner stones from the building, and the whole is nodding to its fall.

Our respectful petitioners next proceed to state certain political axioms, which prove nothing but the folly of their idol, and the stupidity of his worshippers.

"Economy and peace promote the prosperity of nations. The preservation of public liberty is ever allied with the strict observance of public justice. The effects of a war upon the manners and domestic happiness of people, are almost equal to the calamities it inflicts in the field of battle."

And because economy and peace promote the prosperity of a nation, these petitioners wish to prolong the existence of an administration, which has shamefully thrown away SEVENTEEN MILLIONS of money, by way of tribute, to a foreign despot, and to purchase a wilderness of land of "doubtful frontier," which threatens to prove a Golgotha to the United States.

Yes, Mr. Jefferson & Co. having by the best possible management, already at once, *involved us in a war*, and squandered away our *means of defence*, are requested to continue their useful labours, because "*economy and peace promote the prosperity of nations!!*"

Again, we are informed, in this pithy petition, that an intelligent patriot like Mr. Jefferson,

"Will be sensible that a government which adheres to justice, is always the most formidable."

How then has it happened, that France, whose *injustice* and atrocity surpasses any thing in the annals of any other nation, barbarous or civilized, should be able to trample under foot the proudest nations of the old world? And why should the frown of the meanest minion of Bonaparte, be able to give our emperor a Carter Mountain ague, and empty the treasury of the United States? Why, since our president is a wholesale dealer in this article, "*Justice*," which it seems is such a sovereign catholicon for healing disputes among nations, are the peaceable citizens of this peaceful democratic country, insulted, and plundered, and

* *See note in page* 221.

murdered by petty marauders, in the very mouths of our harbours?

But it is urged, that the present administration are preserving our national resources for a "moment of danger and necessity."

That is to say, we are destroying our military and navy, exposing our sea-ports defenceless, paying tribute to our enemies, multiplying the points of attack by purchasing a "boundless frontier," and all for the purpose of preserving our national resources for a moment of danger! But then, as beautifully expressed by an American bard,

"Should invasion impend,
"Every grove would descend
"From the hill-tops they shaded our shores to defend."

This truly sublime operation, however, we fear, can only be brought about by *poetry* or *witchcraft*. For not a waggon, nor even a wheel-barrow load would be apt to budge *spontaneously*; and our provident administration would be too careful of our "national resources," to provide even a horse-cart for the purpose of assisting the military and sublime operations of our *warlike and patriotic* FORESTS.

But then "every grove would descend," and take to the water by philosophic instinct, very like the ships that Virgil mentions, which being made of celestial Berecynthian pine, from the top of mount Ida, were fire-proof against the attempts of a wicked Rutulian rascal, who attempted to burn them with mere culinary fire. Perhaps, however, by cherishing our "national resources," is understood dry dock contrivances for rotting ships—*secundum artem philosophiæ*.

But to be serious, (for this is, in truth, no laughing matter,) the talking about cherishing our "national resources," and preserving them as one would pickle a barrel of herrings, is most ineffable nonsense. It is saying, stand behind the counter, and follow the plough, and mind your awl, good merchants, good farmers, good mechanics; never think of war till it pops upon you—Preserve all your energies and "national resources," good citizens, for a moment of danger; then *let them out* all at once, *in the field of battle!*—Or, to put a more familiar case, for the sake of being *understood* by these petitioners; advice to the body politic, to cherish "national resources," by inactivity, or by pursuits which are entirely disconnected with military affairs, is like advice to a human being never to *use* his *feet* or *hands*, but to preserve the "resources" of those limbs, in order, in due season, to run or to fight, as occasion may require, with their accumulated "resources" in high preservation.

We believe, however, that it never entered the noddles of any rational two-legged animals, these petitioners and their fellow-democrats excepted, that making preparation for war, was dissipating the "resources" of the nation. Magazines, arms, arsenals, veteran soldiers, skilful and experienced commanders, are not to be spoken into existence by the fiat of a gimcrack philosopher. War, since the French revolution, has become more than ever a *science*, and it is even necessary to serve an apprenticeship to the *art*.

"We consider a national debt as a political evil of the greatest magnitude."

Not quite the greatest *possible magnitude*. A national debt owing to individuals of *the same nation*, is not apt to impoverish it. It is true, however, that there are evils attending a national debt, which we shall not at present point out, as they are entirely irrelevant to the subject before us. The petitioners having, with their usual adroitness, overset themselves with their own argument, we shall not astempt to show its fallacy, but merely prove that its application is directly against them.

A national debt is a *political evil* of the greatest magnitude.

The Federalists paid a part of it, and made effectual provisions for paying the remainder.

Therefore, say the democrats, the Federalists are unprincipled monarchists, vile tories, enemies to their country, and ought to be *dogged* out of existence by the *blood-hounds* of faction.

This is a correct specimen of democratic logic—

"They pile their *own* abominations,
Enough to damn a dozen nations,
All on the simple harmless heads
Of passive, inoffensive Feds."

Not content with attributing to the Federalists all the political, moral, and natural evils, under which this country has suffered, or under which it is apprehended by our clear-visioned, second-sighted demagogues, that it may suffer hereafter, the dominant faction must go to Great-Britain; and every crime and folly of her government, real and imagined, for some centuries past, must likewise be laid on the shoulders of the Federalists; while the leaders of this abominable faction snicker in their sleeves, and chuckle at the ox-like patience with which all this is endured by the worthy Washingtonians; who are so conscious of the rectitude of their cause, that many of them will scarcely lift a hand, or give a pin to its support.

Our petitioners who *advance* with a *retrograde* motion, that is, two steps backwards to one forwards, next present us with the gratifying information that the British are about to experience the "crisis of their fate." What a set of precious patriots these! They see the tiger of France gulp down whole nations at a meal, and, although they know that their own dear country is designed for the fell animal's next luncheon, yet they congratulate the world that the only power that can check his ravenous career, is now sinking under the weight of its own corruption, and the burthens it is called upon to sustain in maintaining the common cause of nations! And, *because* Great-Britain is sinking, and *we*, of course, must become the slaves of France, or be obliged to maintain a contest single-handed, with a power, before whom nations and armies are swept like chaff before the tempest; *therefore*, let us again enlist ourselves under a man, who is celebrated for hiding himself in the day of peril.

We are next treated with an "essay towards a statement," of the "importance of Louisiana." This, and indeed the greater part of this production, has more the appearance of *solemn irony*, than a political statement, designed to influence the opinions of men in their sober senses. Men that can *honestly* make such assertions, ought to be sent to some hospital of incurable lunatics. Those who assert such things, knowing them *false*, are *traitors* of the most mischievous description. Although Louisiana has already proved itself a thorn in the side of the United States, and we are actually feeling the evils which Federalists foretold would result from this purchase, yet here are an impudent set of the faction, declaiming on the benefits of the bargain! As well might an assassin tell his wretched victim, "this is a delicate dagger, how prettily it grides between your ribs!" or the tormentor, "these are very pretty pincers, how finely the flesh quivers where they tear!" Has not the President informed us, in public messages, that this boasted purchase is the source of strife with France and Spain, and do we not know that it is the theatre of insurrection, and the head quarters of civil war? Away then with such trash, fit for none but idiots and knaves of the most stupid cast. We have purchased of a power that knows no right of national property, except what is held by the tenure of the sword. We have paid the purchase money to our own, and to the world's enemy. Had we thrown double the sum into the sea, it had been infinitely better for the union. Even the French themselves deride us in their public papers for *purchasing* what we might *conquer*, and what we can never retain but by the sword.

These gentlemen conclude their pitiful petition, with a sort of peroration of the whole, stating what, we hope, has been satisfactorily refuted: But we shall not fatigue ourselves or the reader, by pursuing them any further.

It seems to be useless to attempt to save those who have *set their hearts upon perishing*. If a drowning man seizes an object at the bottom of the stream, with a convulsive grasp, there is no remedy for him. As Mr. Smilie would

say, he *will* drown, and nobody *shall* help him. And if Americans are determined to rely on Mr. Jefferson as the rock of their political salvation, they must submit to the inevitable destruction which awaits them.

The following work, we flatter ourselves, will prove an important acquisition to the literature of our country. We have been assured, that the collection of speeches which is here announced, is the fruit of much exertion and perseverance; and that it contains an exhibition of modern eloquence in its best attire. The most celebrated orators of England and America will pass in review before the reader, like the

Magnanimi heroës, nati melioribus annis,
Omnibus his niveâ cinguntur tempora vitta,

beheld in vision by the Trojan hero.

From the Port Folio.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

MODELS OF ELOQUENCE.

During his literary labours in this department of the Port Folio, it is frequently incident to the editor to *announce* a work to the public, with a view of obliging some *literary merchant*, as Mr. Hayley terms a bookseller. On such occasions, it is expected from every editor, that if he cannot warmly commend, he may not acrimoniously condemn, but advance in the path of praise to the utmost verge of candour. The editor has been violently censured for this; with what justice let candour herself decide, when he states, with the confidence of truth, that no *mercenary* motive has ever stimulated him in this behalf, but to promote the interest of *others*, and to extend the lines of literature in his native country, have been his cardinal objects. For this service, whatever may be its worth, he has received no other return than the sneers of some, and the curses and ingratitude of others.

On the present occasion, when he strives to call the public attention to a work, in great forwardness, entitled, SELECT SPEECHES, FORENSIC AND PARLIAMENTARY, with illustrative notes, and remarks, by N. Chapman, M. D. he cannot by the most illiberal critic be charged with writing a puffing paragraph for the bookseller, or obtruding a foolish book upon the public. An intimate persuasion of the value of such a work, and an ardent attachment to its ingenious and discriminating editor, unite to urge us to omit no effort to make its circulation as extensive as the geography of America. In the leading volumes, the student, the lawyer, and the statesman, will find some of the most brilliant specimens of eloquence, which, within the last half century, have, at the bar, or in the senate house of Great-Britain, delighted, roused, defended, or governed mankind. The names of CHATHAM, BURKE, PITT, TOWNSHEND, CHARLES YORKE, LYTTELTON, FLOOD, GRATTAN, CURRAN, &c. need only to be mentioned, to give every reader a full assurance of the value of this portion of the work. In the concluding volumes, the editor, according to the dictates of his own judgment, in alliance with the deliberate opinion of the author of this article, will insert some of the speeches of the *olden* time. This is not the place to enter into a discussion of the politics of Charles I.; but whatever might or may be thought of the nature or tendency of his maxims of government, it was notorious to the most prejudiced Puritan then, as well as to every polite scholar now, that this ill-fated prince was one of the most accomplished writers and speakers in his kingdom. My Lord Falkland, Earl Strafford, and many of their illustrious contemporaries, will furnish many admirable models of speech. To prevent every invidious, and to rescind every party objection, to pay a full tribute to impartiality, and make an acceptable sacrifice to candour, the most brilliant orations of *Tom Totherside** will be fairly inserted. Among others, Waller's famous speech on the

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* Colman's Connoisseur.

impeachment of judge Crawley; of which popular, highly animated, and truly classical harangue, the bookseller boasted that he had sold *forty thousand* in one day.

Nor shall the orators of America be passed over with contemptuous, or ignominious silence. Full justice shall be done to the genius of our country. If our *writers* form but a small company, the regiment of *speakers* is certainly full. We know no very forcible reason to prevent genuine patriotism and honest enthusiasm from comparing America to Athens, not much to the disadvantage of the former.

We conclude this annunciation, with expressing our belief that gentlemen of the legal profession, scholars in general, and politicians of every party, will purchase this work; and in the great objects of amusement and instruction, we are convinced no subscriber will be disappointed.—In our country, eloquence is synonymous with civic honours, wealth, dignity, and power. In the last particular, its potency is that of a magician. "It wields at will our *fierce democratie*." It "shakes the arsenal," and *thunders* to the utmost verge of our political sky, as Demosthenes

——"*fulmin'd* over Greece,
To Macedon and Artaxerxes' throne."

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Mr. J. Watts, of Philadelphia, has issued proposals for publishing by subscription, Select Speeches, forensic and parliamentary, with illustrative remarks, by N. Chapman, M. D.

Pietatem gravem ac meritis si forte virum quem,
Conspexere, silent; arrectisque auribus adstant;
Iste *regis dictis animos et pectora mulcet.*
Virg.

THE design of the work, as the title imports, is to draw from the exchequer of modern eloquence, the most distinguished Speeches, and to publish them *collectively*. These splendid productions, to many of which "Demosthenes would have listened with *delight*, and Cicero with *envy*," are permitted, by a strange insensibility to their value, to be scattered, with the refuse of literature, in the perishable shape of a pamphlet, or to be preserved imperfectly in the synopses of the chronicles of the day. It is to be regretted, that in consequence of this neglect, some of the finest displays of modern elocution are already irretrievably lost, and that the rest must inevitably be swept away by the current of time, if an effort be not fostered to give them a more permanent form.

The diligent researches of the editor, though sometimes disappointed, have been, on the whole, rewarded with a success, very disproportioned to the moderate expectations with which he has went to the task. He has found, concealed in the cabinets of the curious, and in the hordes of "literary misers," a sufficient number of the "brightest gems," to authorize him to exchange the toils of gleaning, for the perplexity of selection.

He proposes to make indisputable evidence of the genuineness of every speech, the invariable criterion of his choice, and will admit no one into the work which has not distinct claims from importance of matter and brilliancy of diction.

Without hazarding a decision of his own on the intricate question of the respective excellence of modern and ancient eloquence, he confidently trusts that *his compilation* will not be thought to weaken the opinion, that were a collection of the best specimens of the latter to be formed, it might fearlessly challenge a comparison with the celebrated exhibitions of Grecian and Roman oratory.

Of the pretensions of the work to public favour, the editor conceives little need be said.

I. It is an attempt, and the only one, to perpetuate modern eloquence.

What direct memorial, says a late writer, would remote posterity have received, even of the existence of the talent, were not a few of Mr. Burke's orations incorporated with his works? But, gorgeous as is certainly the rhetoric of Edmund Burke, will his speeches alone convey an adequate representation of the extent, variety, and richness of the eloquence of the age in which he lived?

II. It will present at one view to the lawyer and statesman, those learned and lucid discussions of politics and jurisprudence, which are eminently subsidiary to his investigations, and which, as now dispersed, are always difficult of access, and frequently not at all to be procured.

III. It will afford a correct model for the study of oratory.

The calm, temperate, argumentative manner of the moderns, differs too widely from the bold, vehement, figurative style of the ancient orations, to render them, notwithstanding their various beauties, a standard altogether proper for emulation.

Whatever tends to improve or widen the dominion of speech, cannot be an object of indifference in a commonwealth.

Eloquence has always been admired and studied by every free people. It engages particularly their attention, because it opens to them the widest avenue of distinction. Com-

pared to it, the influence of the other attributes, which elevate to rank, or confer authority, is feeble and insignificant. In Greece and Rome it rose, by cultivation, to the loftiest pitch of refinement, and the history of those states confirms, by innumerable instances, the truth, "that eloquence is a power."

But no where has a condition of things prevailed, holding out stronger incitements to its acquirement, or more auspicious opportunities for its profitable exertion, than in the United States. There are, indeed, in the peculiar construction of our political institutions, advantages to the orator, which did not belong to even the ancient democracies. The complex fabric of our federative system has multiplied beyond the example of any government, legislative assemblies, and judiciary establishments; each of which is not only a school to discipline eloquence, but also a field, that yields the abundant harvests of its honours and emoluments.

With us, an additional motive exists to stimulate generous ambition to the culture of oratory. The nation has a character to receive. We can scarcely hope to create and emblazon one with the glitter of military deeds. The natural felicities of our situation will forbid, perhaps, for a considerable period, our becoming warlike. Reputation from the improvements of literature, or science, or the arts, is equally denied to us. Centuries must elapse before we can arrive at this enviable eminence. The adolescence of a people is not the season which produces such improvements. They are the offspring of a much riper age.

Hitherto we are chiefly known by a hardy spirit of commercial enterprize, and by the uncommon possession of the faculty of public speaking, which are the probable germinations of our future character. Into these directions the genius of our country is pressed by causes not readily to be controlled. Eloquence seems to flourish well among us. Let us, therefore, encourage its growth till it becomes the distinguished feature of the American people. Let us, since we are excluded from many of the means which advance the glory of a nation, endeavour to exalt our fame by excelling in one of the noblest qualities of our nature.

Like a polished republic of antiquity, we will content to be characterized by our commerce and our oratory. The winds which waft the redundant products of our industry to the remotest regions, may also bear our renown as the most eloquent people on earth.

CONTENTS OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

Burke on American taxation.
Lord Chatham on the Boston port bill.
Erskine on the trial of Stockdale.
M'Intosh on the trial of Peltier.
Burke on reconciliation with America.
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I. The work will be comprised in three or four large octavo volumes.

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☞ Subscriptions received at John Watt's office, Dock-street; and by all the principal Booksellers throughout the United States.

October 27, 1806.

The following letter from the governor of this state, was published in a late number of the Morning Chronicle.

To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle.

Sir,

Although I have ever held it a degradation of my official character to notice the slanders of anonymous writers and wretches of little or no consideration in society, and have borne with them in silence—yet, when they present themselves, sanctioned by the signature of a man of respectable standing, to repel them is a duty I owe myself and the community, which is *interested* in the character of its officers. I am, therefore, constrained to declare, that the assertion contained in the *Republican Watch Tower*, of the 25th ult. under the signature of THOMAS FARMAR, of my *having formed a coalition with the federalists, for the purpose of procuring or retaining power*, is a base, villainous, and slanderous falsehood, destitute of even the colour of foundation.

In justice to the gentlemen of the federal party, I am bound to declare, that I have no reason to believe they ever contemplated or wished such corrupt combination, or any other political combination or coalition with me; as no proposition, or even hint of the kind, was ever given or made to me directly or indirectly, by any one of them.

MORGAN LEWIS.

Albany, 11th Jan. 1807.

FROM THE UNITED STATES GAZETTE.

"*Out of thine own mouth will I convict thee.*"—*Duane*, in the Aurora of the

10th inst. has charged Mr. Daniel Clarke, the Congress delegate from Orleans territory, with being a principal leader in a conspiracy to destroy the integrity of the union, by separating the western from the Atlantic states, and in support of his accusation, he (in his paper of the 13th instant) invokes the testimony of Andrew Ellicott, Esq. in the following terms:

"Mr, Ellicott, of the land-office at Lancaster, owes it to the public to put them in possession of what *he knows* of the *Spanish intrigues* to the westward—or as the office he holds is in the gift of governor *M'Kean*, will *official considerations*, induce a silent complacency? No man ought to know Mr. Daniel Clark, the delegate from Orleans, better than Mr. Ellicott."

Now let us see what Mr. Ellicott says on the subject of Mr. Clark. In page 174 of his journal, (a well known work) the following passage (which we copy verbatim) will be found.

"This subject became a matter of serious consideration, and the United States, having neither a consul nor vice-consul at that port, I interested myself in procuring the privilege for Daniel Clark, jun. a distinguished merchant at that place, to act as consul for the United States, till the executive should make a regular appointment. Immediately upon the application being made to governor Gayoso, he directed that Mr. Clark should be received as consul from the U. States, and regarded as such by the merchants and officers of his catholic majesty.

"The firm, manly, and decided conduct of Mr. Clark, in a short time put a new face upon our commerce in that quarter, and obtained some privileges we had not before enjoyed. The correspondence between governor Gayoso, Mr. Clark, and myself, on the various subjects which invited discussion, would of itself make a volume; but as it more particularly concerned Mr. Clark, it is hoped that he will some time make it public. The conduct of Mr. Clark was so acceptable to the executive of the United States, that he was thanked through my hands, and requested to continue his good offices in favour of our citizens; the appointment of consul was nevertheless given to a Mr. Jones, and that of vice-consul to a worthy native of the United States, by the name of Hulings. Upon the late change of administration taking place, the merit of Mr. Clark was so conspicuous, that he was appointed consul in the place of Mr Jones."

The reader is here left to draw his own conclusions, and wonder, indeed he must, at the stupid malignity of a wretch, who in his attempts to asperse a meritorious citizen, and a friend to his country, only exposes and adds to his own infamy, and exalts still higher the character he aims to destroy.

Abstract of Congressional proceedings.

TENTH CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, December 15.

(Continued from page 229.)

Mr. J. Clay had been unfortunate in not understanding this subject, or his colleague had mistaken two amendments for one. The reason why this bill needs a reference to a select committee, is, to save the U. S. from the payment of costs, which may have arisen in cases of forfeiture under the non-importation act. As the bill now stands the U. S. must pay costs. It seems reasonable that the delinquent should pay them, and the reference to the select committee is intended for making a provision for that purpose. Does the gentleman from North-Carolina, (Mr. Alston) want official information of this from the treasury department?

The question being taken on referring the bill with the amendment of the Senate, to a committee of the whole—it was lost; ayes 30. The question was taken on a reference to a select committee, and carried without a division. Messrs. J. Randolph, Clay, and Alston, were appointed on this committee.

Mr. Elliot, (Ver.) after a speech of some length, respecting the foreign relations of the U. S. gave notice, that

on Tuesday, the 23d inst. he would offer a series of resolutions, the object of which will be to improve the naval system, and to provide more effectually for the commerce, seamen, coasts, and frontiers of the U. S.

Mr. J. Lewis (Virg.) called for the order of the day, on the bill authorizing the erection of a bridge over the Potomac, in the district of Columbia. The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill——Mr. Varnum in the chair.

Mr. J. Randolph, from the committee to whom was referred the bill suspending the non-importation act, with the amendments of the Senate, made a report recommending a concurrence with the amendments of the Senate, with a certain other amendment, to wit, that a claim be annexed to the bill, providing, that all costs which may have arisen under the act, shall be paid by the person who may be guilty of a breach of it.

The question was taken and carried on this amendment reported by the committee.

Mr. Dawson (of Vir.) moved to strike out the word *service*, in the amendment of the Senate, and insert *interest* in lieu thereof.

Mr. Randolph could not see how the public interest could be disconnected from the public service.

Mr. Dawson thought they ought never to be disconnected, but they often were in fact.

The question was taken on Mr. Dawson's motion, and carried.—Ayes 43—Noes 40.

Mr. Smilie. I am against this amendment. I really hoped that the gentlemen in favour of it would think it necessary to show why this amendment was necessary. The President recommended to us to suspend for a time the non-importation act, and we have done it. What further is wanting? If it were the last day of the session, and if it were made to appear necessary, perhaps I would vote for something like this amendment. But I cannot agree to it at present. In my opinion it holds out to England, that we are tired of the act. We *will* probably receive some further information before we rise, and of course we *will* then be better able to legislate on this subject.

Mr. J. Clay did not see how the amendment would show England that we are tired of the act. In his opinion, it showed England, that unless arrangements are made, we are disposed to adopt severe measures. *It may be proper to repeal the act before the 4th of March.* But if the amendment is not agreed to, though accommodation takes place, the act must go into operation. Mr. C. was not generally fond of placing extensive powers in the hands of the executive, but he thought it necessary in this case.

The arguments urged in favour of the act, at the time that it passed, were, that it would induce England to discontinue her depredations, and abandon her illegal and destructive principles, in regard to the rights of neutral commerce. Now, if England has done this, all the necessity of this hostile measure is done away—Why continue it then? If the gentleman (Mr. S.) can point out any better mode of managing, he (Mr. C.) would be very glad to hear it.

Mr. Crowninshield (Mass.) could not agree to the amendment; he saw no necessity for it. The house had sent a bill to the Senate, suspending till the 1st of next July, a bill, prohibiting the importation of certain goods from G. Britain. The bill now comes *up* from the Senate, with an amendment, authorizing the President to suspend the act for a still longer term. Why is this amendment annexed to the bill?—No new negociations are begun. To be consistent, the house must reject the amendment. Mr. C. the other day, voted against suspending the act till the 31st of December next, and he considered the amendment as embracing the same principle as that motion. The form is different, but the principle is the same. Mr. C. was not certain that he should be opposed late in the session, to giving the President this power, if information should be received that an accommodation had ta-

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ken place, or was likely soon to take place. But he had not yet learned that any seamen were released, or any obnoxious principles had been abandoned by England. He should, therefore, give the amendment his hearty negative.

Mr. Bidwell (Mass.) could not see like his colleague, (Mr. Crowinshield) that there was no difference between the amendment under consideration, and the motion discussed the other day to suspend the act in question till the 31st Dec. next. He thought there was a very material difference between the two cases, and the reasons which were applicable to the suspension, did not apply to the amendment.

Mr. B. did not think the act of last session, a measure of hostility. It was merely pacific, and in perfect consistency with the law of nations, on pacific principles. Its object was to convince England, by refusing her manufactures, that it was her interest to be on friendly terms with us. It is a mere regulation of trade, and such a regulation as any nation may adopt in regard to other nations, without creating any just cause of complaint.

Mr. B. had said the other day, that in case a treaty with Great-Britain should take place, some further measure would be requisite to prevent the act from going into operation. He then, and still preferred the providing for this event in a distinct act. But as the Senate had annexed to the bill itself, a power of suspension in the president, he was not so tenacious of his own opinion, as to resist the amendments on that ground. Besides, he was opposed on principle to vesting additional power in the executive, but here the power is so limited, and there is so little temptation to abuse it, that in Mr. B's opinion, the objections to increase of executive power did not, in this instance, apply.

In case a treaty is made during the recess of Congress, one of three things must be pursued. 1st. The prohibitory act must go into operation; or, 2dly, Congress must be convened; or, 3dly, authority must be vested in the executive to suspend the act. In Mr. B's opinion, the last course was attended with the fewest inconveniencies. He should have preferred vesting the authority in the President by a distinct act, but as the Senate had thought proper to unite the two things, he would wave his objection, and vote for the amendment.

From our Correspondent.

"WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.

"The attempt, which was made through the National Intelligencer, to extenuate, and thereby to stifle inquiry into the treason of Judge INNES and his associates, in concealing the conspiracy of the Spanish government against the U. States, has completely failed. Mr. John Randolph has succeeded in carrying a resolution of the House of Representatives, calling on the President to communicate information, respecting the proceedings in the western country, and the measures adopted to defeat any combination against the peace and safety of the United States.

"The following is part of the report of his speech on this interesting occasion: far from exciting reprehensions, the severity of his remarks, on the conduct of the Executive, has received the applause of every man, who boasts an American spirit....the expression of his feelings, forms a striking contrast to the snivelling of Smilie, and the whining of the President's son-in-law.

"Mr. RANDOLPH—We are told that this conspiracy is defeated or has succeeded to the utmost; but if it may have succeeded but in part, can it not be checked? The newspaper evidence to which he alluded, he observed, was the authentic proofs, at the trial of Judge Sebastian, of the disposition of the Spanish. Castilian honour and fame are

no more. Spain, while treating with one hand, was preparing to stab us with the other. What has been the treatment of the Spanish minister? Why has he not been sent home? When Miranda had gone, how great were his complaints and inquiries. We hear no complaints or inquiries now made by him. New-Orleans is the object; and can we doubt whether or not he is concerned? Of one circumstance Mr. R. said he thought he had a sufficient evidence.—He believed that if the conspirators should arrive at Baton Rouge, before our troops, New-Orleans must fall.—He wished not such an "union of honest men" to take possession of the key of the Missisippi and shut the door in our face.—He was not disposed to triumph; though he had ample cause.—It would be no gratification to him to triumph in the disgrace of his country.—He had had, he said, no hand in those acts of omission or of commission, which had brought us to the present disastrous state—He had expected, had foretold, the danger of losing the Delta of the Mississippi:—he knew not *who* the modern Catiline would be, but expected there would be such—Yet the house seemed in a state of indifference or insensibility, or were so economical, they wanted greatness of soul enough to afford the purchase of a key to secure their strong box—they pursued a narrow, an unaccountable policy: what would have been the feelings of this house if the British forces were now scouring the lakes—were along the 46th degree of lat. within our frontiers? What if the British minister had been ordered home, and his court had continued him here: stuck him under the very nose of the executive? The feelings and the measures of this house would be very different from what they now are—they would be what they ought to be now, but what they are not.

"The resolution had been said to betray a want of confidence in the executive: he must be indulged in the cultivation of a sceptical philosophy; he should judge in politics as in religion, by works, not by faith—He would not mortgage his conscience to the executive in that manner—but the principle was wrong—the house were entitled to information—it was their duty to obtain it. —*Political Register.*

We have cut the thread of our narrative of the proceedings of Congress-worthies, for the purpose of introducing the observations of Mr. Randolph, relative to the present alarming state of the nation. Our national affairs require a thorough investigation, and *first*, so far as respects our means of defence, from dangers which menace us from without. We hope that Mr. Randolph will proceed with ardour and perseverance to strip the idol of democratic adoration of its trumpery trimmings, so that even the dullest of dull fools will cease to pay it homage.

FRIDAY, January 16.

The house went into a committee of the whole, on the "bill providing for the survey of the coasts of the United States." The committee rose, and the bill was ordered to have a third reading on Monday.

Mr. Randolph observed, that in the message of the president, communicated at the commencement of the session, it had been announced to the house, that he had received information that a number of individuals had combined together, and armed themselves, contrary to law, for the purpose of carrying on an expedition against Spain, and that he had thought it necessary to take measures for suppres-

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sing the enterprise, and for arresting and bringing to justice its authors and abettors. So long as the illegal movements of those persons had been supposed to have been directed against a foreign nation altogether, the honour of the U. States required immediate measures to be taken for the suppression of the enterprise. But every person would agree with him in the opinion, that the house felt a much more lively indignation, on finding that the enterprise was not against a foreign nation, but, to subvert the union, and to overturn the liberties of the people. He had waited for some information on this subject, information of an official nature. He had continued a long time in the belief, that as no such information had been given to the house, imperious reasons did exist, which forbade its communication. But the aspect of affairs on the Missisippi was such, that he could not reconcile it to his duty, as the representative of a free people, to rest satisfied with the state of indifference and apathy with which the house had continued to set for six or seven weeks. From the information he had been able to collect, if the government of Spain had any connexion with this machination, she was concerned, not as the defendant, but as the plaintiff. So long as he could be induced to believe that by withholding these communications, the public interest would be served, he had acquiesced in having them withheld; but from appearances on the Missisippi, it would seem that the state of things required the prompt interposition of legislative authority; and he was now of opinion, that no information in possession of the executive ought to be withheld from the house. But he had so modified the motion he was about to submit, as to do away any opposition. It did appear, not from the newspapers, but from a much higher authority, from evidence taken before a committee of the Legislature of Kentucky, that Spain has incessantly laboured, since the year 1788, to detach the Western Country from the union —that she had withheld the stipulation for the treaty of San Lorenzo Il Real—that she did make propositions of a most faithless nature, in order to mislead influential characters—that she never had, nor never would lose sight of that object, so long as she has a shadow of hope of finding the materials—that she had found those materials, which were in operation, and at the moment, perhaps, when he was addressing the house, the fate of the western country might be decided upon, at least for a time. This offered another reason to justify the policy advocated last year, which had been so highly condemned. He had been informed, that the other branch of the legislature were now debating upon the means of carrying that policy into effect, which had been so much despised*. [Mr. R. was here called to order.] He then said, he would not say another word about it; but he would say, that a bill has just passed the house, authorizing the president to accept the services of a number of volunteers, not exceeding 30,000 men; and he had understood, that a member of the committee who framed the bill, who was connected and domesticated with the secretary at war, did actually make a proposition, substantially the same as the one offered last session—he meant the proposition for increasing the military force†. Could any man doubt (said Mr. R.) that if the government of the United States had, last session, taken a manly and decided attitude in regard to Spain; if it had, instead of giving us pen and paper, given us arms, Spain would

* Mr. R. here alluded to a bill which was sent into the house after he had sat down, from the Senate, respecting an increase of the military establishment, and was laid on the clerk's table, but not read.

† This gentleman explained. He said, he had made a proposition in the committee to augment the number of forces, by adding such a number as should enlarge the companies to 100 instead of 80; that he had also made a proposition to authorize the President to raise a certain number of troops, provided the public good required it; but that he did not believe the secretary at war ever knew any thing about the business.

now have been overawed, and domestic conspiracies stopped and crushed? Would any man have dreamed that an attack ever would have been contemplated on New-Orleans, if a strong military force had been sent to the neighbouring country? But what did we hear then? We heard (he said) of money—of dollars and cents. Could any man doubt (he asked) that the saving of the campaign on the Sabine, the saving of the hasty measures taken by the American general, at his own responsibility, would not have been equal to the expense of raising an army sufficient to protect that country? On the principle of economy, therefore, the people of the United States would have been gainers. A spectator of the state of affairs in this country, who might not be in the habit of reading the public papers, or of communicating with individuals out of doors, but drawing his ideas of the state of the country from the proceedings of the present session, would naturally infer, that we never did enjoy a greater degree of tranquillity than at the present time: and what was the fact? The United States are not only threatened with foreign invasion, but with domestic commotion, the more dangerous, because its extent is so little known. Yes, (said Mr. R.) we adjourn and sit, and sit and adjourn—say our books like school boys—do as we are bid, and ask no questions. He concluded, by remarking, that the youngest members of the federal family, (state of Ohio) had done itself honour, while the elder sisters were sleeping, and dozing, and snoring at their posts.

Mr. Randolph then offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is directed to lay before the house any information in possession of the executive, except such as he may deem the public welfare requires not to be disclosed, touching any illegal combination of private individuals, against the peace and safety of the union, or any military expedition planned by such individuals against the territory of any power in amity with the United States: together with the measures the executive has pursued, and proposes to take for suppressing or defeating the same."

Considerable debate arose on the adoption of this resolution. It was opposed by Messrs. Alston, Smilie, and Holland, and defended by Messrs. J. Clay, Lloyd, and Randolph; but the lateness of the hour renders it impossible to give even a sketch of their remarks.

A motion was made to divide the resolution into two parts, and to take the ayes and noes on each It was accordingly divided, after the words "United States." The question was then taken on the first part of the resolution, and it was carried—ayes 109—noes 14. The second part was also carried—ayes 67—noes 52—with the exception of the words, "and proposes to take" which were stricken out, on the ground that it would be improper to ask for such information.

A committee of two members was appointed to carry the resolution to the President; when *some time after sunset*, the house adjourned until Monday.

A tender spot.—On Monday, January 12, Mr. Dana called for the reading of the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, to ascertain the amount of the Mediterranean fund, in order that it might be known how much the people were relieved by the bill before the house.

The report being read, it appeared that the duties repealed by the bill, amounted to 500,000 dollars, and the duties imposed, amounted to 1,000,000.

Mr. Dana observed, that he should like to know why the third section, which imposes the additional ad valorem duties, is retained. The duties were continued the last year in consequence of an intimation from the President, that some menaces had been thrown out by the Tunissian ambassador, or some demand of tribute made, or something of that sort. *It is not*

pretended those additional duties are wanted for the purpose of defence There is no pretence that they are wanted for the extraordinary two millions voted the last session. Mr. D. concluded, by moving to strike out the third section of the bill.

There were immediately loud and reiterated calls for the question.

Mr. Dana. The secretary of the treasury in his letter to the committee who reported this bill, says, that the only object in continuing this duty, is to provide for the two millions. But we know nothing about the disposition of monies under that grant. We have not the least knowledge on the subject. *If the house are in truth anxious to relieve the burdens of the people, why are duties to the amount of* 1,00.000 *a year, continued in lieu of a tax that produces only half that sum?*

The Aurora, that "*snaky sorceress,*" which may be aptly compared to *Sin*, as set forth in Milton,

——About whose middle round
A cry of hell-hounds never ceasing bark
With wide Cerberean mouths full loud, and ring
A hideous peal,

has of late teemed with a more than usual number of

"Perverse, all monstrous, all prodigious things,
Abominable, inutterable; and worse
Than fables yet have feign'd or fear conceiv'd.

The whole object of that poisonous vehicle, that Bohon Upas of American politics, is to keep alive a flame of indignation against Great-Britain; and this for no reason that any mortal can conceive, but that her interests and those of America are intimately blended, and both countries are involved in a tremendous contest with the common enemy of civilized nations.

In a series of numbers, called "*Politics for Farmers*;" the wretch who conducts that paper, or some of his wretched correspondents, has heaped falsehood upon falsehood, till it has become a vain attempt to think of refuting them by any thing short of a thick folio volume, devoted to that purpose We shall, therefore, merely advert to a few as specimens, and if our countrymen will place confidence in a notorious public liar, we shall at least have the satisfaction of reflecting, that we have repeatedly denounced this dangerous demagogue, and forwarned them of the consequences.

In No. 7: of this series of essays, which have lately oozed from that fountain of filth, with the title of "*Politics for Farmers*," we are told, that Liston, formerly ambassador from Great-Britain to America, was active in the conspiracy of Blount and Romayne, which had for its object, the severance of the United States.

This is false. A plan was laid before Mr. Liston for raising an army within the United States, to invade the Spanish territories. He received it with coldness, and sent it to his employers.

Here is the answer:

"*Downing-Street, April 8th*, 1797.

"SIR,

"In answer to your dispatches No. "2 and 3, I have to inform you, that "the proposal which has been made to "you by Mr——————, (as men- "tioned in those dispatches,) for en- "deavouring to wrest the two Floridas "from Spain, has been taken into con- "sideration by his majesty's confiden- "tial servants, but it has not been "thought expedient to accede to it, "or to adopt any measures for carry- "ing it into execution.

"Without entering into a detail of "the various considerations that have "led to this decision, I think it merely "necessary to observe, that, exclusive- "ly of the inadequacy of the means to "the end proposed, the two objections

" which have occurred to yourself, the " *necessity of employing Indians, and the* " *impropriety of originating within the* " *United States, any hostile expedition* " *against a nation with which they are* " *at peace, are of sufficient magnitude to* " *counterbalance the advantages which* " *are likely to result from the execution* " *of such a plan* "

" I have, therefore, to signify to you " the king's pleasure, that you take an " early opportunity of informing Mr. " ——————, that you have submitted " his design to his majesty's govern- " ment, but that it has not been thought " adviseable to afford any assistance " from this country towards carrying " it into effect.

" I am, with great truth and regard,
" Sir,
" Your most ob't. humble serv't.
(" Signed) GRENVILLE."

ROBERT LISTON, Esq. &c. &c.

This politician for farmers, after a number of other LIES, tells us in the same number, that the ship *Messenger* was captured off New-York, was owned by Mr. Rutgers, a Federalist.—That Mr. Rutgers was a relation to Mr. Barclay, consul of the United States, at Halifax, to which place the prize was taken.—That

" Mr. Barclay addressed himself to Halifax in force, and what think you was his artillery? why, that Mr. Rutgers' ship ought to be released, for *he is warmly Federal.*

" Mr. Rutgers is warmly Federal, he is warmly opposed to the government, and, therefore, not only was his ship released from the claws of the harpies, but, as we are informed, Beresford himself, the captain of the British ship, was so " *warmly federal,*" that when he found out the *warm federalism* of the supercargo of the Messenger, he deplored having sent the vessel for adjudication, and immediately went in search of her; nay, he promised on her arrival at Halifax, she should be instantly released without delay or hindrance, or even a trial, and even to supply men to navigate her back, finding she belonged to a gentleman so " warmly federal."

Now the *truth* is, that this " warmly federal ship was actually *condemned* by the British, and the red-hot democratic-Aurora-man, by this tale, added a plumper to millions of flagitious falsehoods.

The following is a *parody* of a *parody* of Gray's celebrated HYMN TO ADVERSITY. We have adapted it to the meridian of the United States, and would recommend it as a standard ode for American Jacobins.

ODE TO JACOBINISM.

I.

DAUGHTER of Hell! insatiate Power,
Destroyer of the Human Race,
Whose iron scourge and mad'ning hour
Exalt the Bad, the Good debase;
Thy mystic force, despotic sway,
Courage and Innocence dismay,
And Patriot Statesmen vainly groan
With pangs unfelt before, unpity'd & alone!

II.

When first to scourge the Sons of Earth,
Thy Sire his darling Child design'd,
Gallia receiv'd the monstrous birth—
VOLTAIRE inform'd thy Infant Mind:
Well-chosen Nurse! his sophist lore
He bade thee mang a year explore!
He mark'd thy progress, firm, tho' slow,
And Statesmen, Princes, leagu'd with their invet'rate Foe.

III.

Scar'd at thy frown terrific, fly
The Morals, (antiquated Brood)
Domestic Virtue, Social Joy,
And Faith that has for Ages stood;
Swift they disperse, and with them go
The Friend sincere, the gen'rous Foe.——
Traitors to God and Man avow'd,
By thee, now rais'd aloft, now crush'd beneath the crowd.

IV.

Revenge, in blood-stain'd Robe array'd,
Immers'd in gloomy joy profound;
Ingratitude, by guilt dismay'd,
With anxious eye wild glancing round.
Still on thy frantic steps attend;
With Death, thy Victim's only Friend,
Injustice, to the truth severe.
And Anguish, dropping still the life-consuming tear.

V.

Oh swiftly on my Country's head,
Destroyer, lay thy ruthless hand;
Not yet in Gallic terrors clad,
Nor circled by thy *Marseilles Band*s

(As by th' initiate thou art seen)
With thund'ring cannon, *Guillotine*,
With screaming horror's funeral cry,
Fire, Rapine, Sword, and Chains, and ghastly Poverty.

VI.

Thy Sophist Veil, dread Goddess, wear,
Falsehood insidiously impart;
Thy philosophic gang be there,
To taint the mind, corrupt the heart:
With scorn unmerited, to brand
The native patriots of our land,
Cheetham array, with all the factious train,
Duane the liar, and that hoar infidel, *Tom Paine*.

BURR'S MOVEMENTS.

A gentleman, who *guesses* with marvellous shrewdness respecting Burr's expedition in a late Richmond Enquirer, has told us that Burr intended nothing less "than to raise the standard of revolt, and take possession of New-Orleans." That this, however, was but a preliminary step in his daring project. "That (in case of success) he would, immediately, have proclaimed from New-Orleans, an expedition for the conquest of New-Mexico; which would have quickly brought such a number of bold adventurers to his standard, from all parts of the union, and of the islands, that he would perhaps have been enabled to remain there until his preparations for the undertaking were complete, in defiance of the whole power of the U. States. If his first step could have succeeded, his hopes of ascending the throne of Mexico, would have been by no means extravagant. The route by land is now perfectly well known to be good, and to pass through a country capable of maintaining an army. It is admitted by all, that an army of 5,000 Americans would be sufficient to penetrate to the capitol, and to hold the kingdom for some time, unless succours could be sent to it from Europe," &c.

Now, we will admit no such thing. We believe that, if Burr could command the whole force of the United States, with the most despotic sway, he could not conquer and keep possession of New-Mexico. The re-capture of Buenos Ayres—Dallas's History of the Maroon War, and other publications respecting the military state of that country, forbid any such supposition.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 8.—By the arrival yesterday of the schooner Brookes, from New-Orleans, we have received papers of that city to the 12th ult. and the following verbal information:

It was stated at New-Orleans, when the Amelia sailed, that the adherents of Burr amounted to 7000 men; and it was believed that his forces would considerably exceed that number. The attack, it was expected, would be made between the 20th and 30th December. The two gun-boats had proceeded up the river as far as Ibberville, and were to ascend as high as Point-Coupee; and two bomb-ketches were also ready to follow them. Com. Shaw had purchased the schooner Ranger, of Baltimore, mounting 16 guns, for the service of government. Gen. Wilkinson had given orders to have all the forts repaired, the city picketed in, and put in a complete state of defence.

In addition to the above particulars, we learn that several persons have been arrested in the city of New-Orleans; among them were a Dr. Bollman, and Messrs. Ogden, and Swartwout. Dr. Bollman has been brought on to this place, in the schooner Amelia, as a state prisoner, under the charge of Lieut. Wilson, and a guard of soldiers; he was yesterday landed, and left in the safe keeping of the commandant at fort Johnson. It will be remembered by our readers, that Dr. Bollman was one of the gentlemen who so gallantly attempted to release the Marquis de la Fayette from Magdeburgh.

We are informed that the commanders of the gun-boats, now in this port, have received orders from government to sail for New-Orleans.

Erratum.—In our last number was published an article, respecting Col. TRUMBULL'S *prints*, which was from the *Mercantile Advertiser*, but, by mistake, it was omitted to take notice of its having been originally published in that paper.

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